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DANCE.28
HE'S FOUND OUT YOU'RE A GIRL, THEN?
If Hayate ever found out...
she said we'd be disbanded...
YES...

バディゴ
BUDDY GO

DANCE.28

Top-rank kiss expression

1
I Read them all.
2
Anything they say about my dancing.
3
Nope.
4
I'm going to keep doing my best!
1. DO YOU READ FAN LETTERS?
2. WHAT MAKES YOU HAPPY TO HEAR WHEN YOU READ ONE?
3. HAVE YOU EVER WRITTEN ONE YOURSELF?
4. A MESSAGE TO YOUR FANS ~

The 6th Idol Interview!

I-I'M SORRY... FOR KEEPING QUIET ABOUT IT...! B-BUT-
I'LL THINK ABOUT THIS WHEN WE GET BACK TO THE COMPANY.
YOU GO BACK FIRST.
...

SOMEKO-CHAN, WHAT HAPPENED? IS IT-
YOU GO BACK TO THE FILMING.
DO YOU
BUT THAT GUY WAS CRY-!
KNOW WHY I KNEW IT WOULD BE BAD IF YOU FOUND OUT ABOUT AI?
IT'S BECAUSE YOU'D ONLY TREAT HER AS A GIRL FROM THEN ON. JUST LIKE YOU'RE DOING NOW.

Did she find out about us...?
It's my fault.
PLEASE GO BACK TO FILMING.
ALSO, UNLESS I TELL YOU IT'S FINE, YOU'RE NOT ALLOWED TO MEET WITH AI.

I'm sorry, Ai.
I'm sorry you're worrying about this
by yourself.

SFX: RING 4X
トロロロ

FOR TOMORROW'S M-STAR LIVESTREAM, WE'VE ALWAYS DONE IT WITH YOU GUYS, BUT
NOW IT'S BEEN CHANGED TO TAG.
DID SOMETHING HAPPEN?
SFX: THuMP
It's Ms. Producer...
WELL, IT IS THE END OF THE YEAR, SO I'M SURE WE'LL MEET DURING ANOTHER PROGRAM.
SEE YA!
Y-YEAH...
WELL, THAT'S FINE, THEN. I WAS LOOKING FORWARD TO SEEING YOU TWO AGAIN, SO THAT'S TOO BAD!
NO-NOTHING... AT ALL...

SFX THUMP 3X
Are we really going to be disbanded...?
BUDDYZ's job was cancelled...
...
SFX RING 2X

HAYATE
ARE YOU CRYING?
HUH...?

NO, I'M NOT.
OH, REALLY?
ぶわっ
ぶわっ...
SFX: SHAKE 2X

OH, REALLY?
LISTEN. IT'LL BE FINE. IT'S US.
if Hayate thinks so,
I know he has no real basis for saying that, but

that's what I'll believe too.
HUH...
I'LL TELL HAYATE TOO.
YES, UNTIL I DECIDE WHAT'S NEXT FOR YOU TWO.
SO-
SOLO ACTIVITIES...?

...
LISTEN. IT'LL BE FINE. IT'S US.
I'VE DECIDED GOING SOLO IS BETTER FOR NOW.
WHILE KEEPING IN MIND WHAT WOULD HAPPEN IF YOU TWO DISBANDED,
I-I'LL DO MY BEST!

All this time, I've really been relying on Hayate regarding anything that doesn't have to do with dancing, huh?

HUH...?!
I have to answer properly!
DA-DANCE!
A QUESTION FROM THE AUDI-ENCE: "IS THERE ANYTHING BESIDES DANCING THAT YOU'RE CURRENTLY INTO?"
Hello!
TODAY'S GUEST IS FROM THE POPULAR IDOL DUO, BUDDYZ. PLEASE WEL-COME AI-KUN!
NO ONE CAN HEAR HIM
IS IT FROM OVER-WORKING?
IS AI-KUN SING-ING?
I even... practiced singing...
Ah, I made a mistake with the lyrics...
AH... UGH...
OKAY! LET'S CUT TO THE MUSIC!
She said anything besides dance!
YOU LOOK LIKE A CORPSE ...
AI-KUN? YOU LOOK SO BEAT UP; ARE YOU OK?

*NOTE. COMMERCIAL BREAK
CM ENDS IN... 3, 2, 1.
!? !? ☆ % $ €
THE CM* IS ENDING. A FEW WORDS PLEASE, AI-KUN!
ALL RIGHT, IT'S TIME FOR THE NEXT SECTION!
HE'S FAINTED!
BOILING OVER
GAAAA-
I need to say some-thing!
A-AND NOW... WE'RE
SFX GAPES
NOW HE'S BLOWING AWAY LIKE DUST
Where's Hayate-kun?!
AI-KUN?! YOU'RE LOOKING EVEN MORE BEAT UP THAN YESTERDAY! YOU OK?!

I UNDER-STAND THE SITUATION, BUT
AT THIS RATE, AI-KUN REALLY WILL GO DOWN IN FLAMES.
Ai kuuun ?!
EVEN I DON'T REALLY KNOW WHAT TO DO AT THIS POINT.
I KNOW... BUT
IT'S IMPOS-SIBLE.
HEEEY! SHOULD WE CONTACT HAYATE-KUN AFTER ALL?

HE'S SINGING IN A LIVE SHOW RIGHT NOW.
Hayate
is doing his best...

SFX CLENCH
I need to do better...
All I do is keep showing my bad sides...
Being weak... is no good.
It's no good.
SFX POUT

I'm becoming more and more afraid of being alone...

SCARY! CREEPY!!
MO-MOMO-CHAN...?
GOOD... MORNING...
IT SEEMS THEY'RE IN THE MIDDLE OF SOME SOLO ACTIVITIES. LOOKS LIKE HE'S EVEN GOT A DIFFERENT DRESSING ROOM.
HOW DID IT BECOME LIKE THIS?! WHERE'S HAYATE?!
SFX GASP
YEAH!
BUT CAN YOU DANCE LIKE THIS?
N-NO! IT'S FINE!
FOR NOW, HOW ABOUT I BRING HIM HERE?

TODAY IS THE END OF-THE-YEAR SPECIAL, AND
THERE ARE A 100,000 PEOPLE OUT THERE!

SFX D ZZY

I'M... GOING TO THE BATH-ROOM...
MOMO! DID YOU HAVE TO SAY THAT?
GAH-! SORRY!
My vision's turning white.
I feel like I'm going to throw up...

I remember our debut live.
Back then, before it all started, I got scared and tried to escape too.
SFX GRAB
That time, it was Hayate who brought me back.
LOOK ONLY AT ME!
After that, I was somehow able to stand on stage.
I thought I'd try my best but
as I thought, I'm no good without Hayate.

slide
But now...
SFX WAAAH!
AI-KUN, YOU'RE NEXT, SO-
THE NEXT ARTIST IS-
THAT WAS TAG'S COOL AND SEXY PERFOR-MANCE!

AI IS GONE?!
HUH?
HAYATE! GO LOOK FOR AI!
IF YOU'RE WITH HIM, EVEN AI WILL...!
...
IS IT BECAUSE OF WHAT I SAID?!
YES, HE'S NOT IN THE DRESSING ROOM OR ANYWHERE ...
EVEN THOUGH I KNEW THIS WAS AI'S LIMIT...
NO... IT'S MY FAULT.

NO WAY.
HUH...?
THERE'S NO NEED.
?! WHAT ARE YOU SAYING?!
YOU'RE PARTNERS! AT TIMES LIKE THESE, YOU SHOULD HELP EACH OTHER OUT!

I-I'LL GO LOOK!
I'LL GO, TOO!
It's scary being alone.
The dread is taking me over.
If we get disbanded, what do I do...?
AI-KUN!
YOU'RE WOBBLING! YOU CAN'T GET UP ON STAGE LIKE THIS!
LET'S GIVE UP ON TODAY.

EVEN THOUGH SHE SEEMS RELUCTANT, I'M SURE IT'LL TURN OUT FINE.
WITH THE WAY THINGS ARE NOW, THE PRODUCER WON'T DISBAND YOU GUYS.
Whisper
LISTEN. IT'LL BE FINE IT'S US.
But... Like this...
ANYWAY, I CAN'T BELIEVE HAYATE! AT A TIME LIKE THIS-!
HE'S YOUR PARTNER... IT'S SO NOT LIKE HIM!!
HE SAID THERE WAS NO NEED!
HE DIDN'T WANT TO GO LOOK FOR YOU!
HUH?

Or else BUDDYZ really will disappear!

HUH...?

THE ONE WHO TREATS HER LIKE A GIRL IS YOU, ISN'T IT, SOMEKO-CHAN?

No.

I have to go.

I have to stand on my own.

Hayate believes in me.

HE'LL DEFINITELY STAND ON THAT STAGE!

DON'T UNDER-ESTIMATE MY PARTNER.

The people waiting here,
the people we surpassed,
they push us forward.
HE'S NOT WHO HE WAS IN THE PAST.

I know Hayate believes in Ai-kun.
I think the producer has realized this by now, too.
Ai-kun understood this and got energized.
IT'S TRUE...
IF HAYATE HAD ONLY TREATED HER LIKE A GIRL, SHE WOULDN'T HAVE GROWN LIKE THIS.
SFX KYAAA!
YOU WERE ALL SCARED, WEREN'T YOU?
THE NEXT ARTIST IS
BUDDYZ'S HAYATE!!
BUT

SFX SMACK

THAT WAS A GREAT PERFOR-MANCE!

I'm sure we'll be fine.
WE'RE GOING TO RESUME OUR ACTIVITIES TOGETHER?!
WE'RE NOT GOING TO BE DIS-BANDED?!
WE'RE NOT...?!
RIGHT NOW,
IT DOESN'T SEEM AS THOUGH YOUR RELATIONSHIP IS GETTING IN THE WAY.

That's great...!
BUT, STILL... I'M SORRY I KEPT QUIET... OF COURSE YOU'D BE... MAD...
I'M NOT MAD AT YOU GUYS.
I'M MAD AT MYSELF.
IT WAS TOO MUCH OF ME TO MAKE AI HIDE HER TRUE SELF FOR BUDDYZ'S SAKE IN THE FIRST PLACE.
IT WAS MY OWN SELFISH-NESS.

I'VE ALWAYS WORRIED IF IT WAS THE RIGHT DECISION TO LET YOU GUYS BE BURDENED BY SUCH A THING...
HOW MUCH DO YOU THINK I WORRIED OVER THE FACT THAT AI WAS FOUND OUT...?!
BUT AFTER SEEING YOUR GROWTH, I'VE...
THAT'S WRONG, SOMEKO-CHAN.
SFX: NOD 2X
BECAUSE
WE BECAME BUDDYZ BECAUSE WE WANTED TO BE.

THANK YOU.
THAT'S WHY, BELIEVE IN US TOO.
BUT.
I WON'T ALLOW YOU TWO TO GO BACK TO LIVING TOGETHER.
?
AH, SO THAT'S IT, AFTER ALL?
OF COURSE! THERE'S NO WAY I'M ALLOWING A GIRL AND A BOY OF THE SAME AGE GROUP TO ROOM TOGETHER!
YOU WERE THE ONE WHO FORCED US TO IN THE FIRST PLACE, SOMEKO-CHAAAN.
That was because I never anticipated you finding out!
SO, INSTEAD-!

Y-YEAH...
It's a bit different, but BUDDYZ is back.
THEN,
GOOD-NIGHT.
Somehow,
it feels a bit weird.